CAPSULE SUMMARY

FOR

CREAMER-MCCONIHE HOUSE 11501 PINEY MEETINGHOUSE ROAD, POTOMAC

Montgomery County Survey Prefix & Site Number: M-25/20
Approximate Building Date: early 19th century & 1940s
Town or Vicinity in which Resource is Located: Potomac
Access: Private

The Creamer-McConihe property contains a small complex of Colonial Revival buildings, the bulk of which were constructed in the 1940s. The complex contains the house, with earlier log sections and attached Cape Cod style garage, stable complex, pool, poolhouse, and tenant house. The Creamer-McConihe House complex is significant primarily for its twnetieth century past. It is important historically for its association with F. Moran McConihe who was a civic activist in Potomac in the early-mid 20th century. Architecturally, the complex, including house, garage, and stables characterizes the Colonial Revival remodeling typical of this era when working farms were converted to residential estates. Of secondary significance is log house section which is still readable, though it has lost some integrity.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Thistoric Properties Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF

Surve	еу иоМ	25-20
Magi	No.	
DOE	yes	no

				ii
1. Nan	1 e (indicate	preferred name)		
historic	Creamer-Mc	Conihe Farm		
and/or common	Piney Spri	ng Farm		
2. Loca	ation	•		
street & numbe	r 11501 Pine	ey Meetinghouse Ro	ad no	t for publication
city, town	Potomac	vicinity of	congressional district 8	
state	MD	county	Montgomery	
3. Clas	sification			
Category district building(s) structure site object	Ownershippublicprivateboth Public Acquisitionin processbeing considerednot_applicabl	Status coccupied coccupie	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
<u>4. Owr</u>	er of Prop	erty (give names a	and mailing addresses of	all owners)
name	Marguerite	e H. McConihe		
street & number	11501 Pine	y Meetinghouse Roa	ad telephone no.: (301)299-2926
city, town	Potomac	state	and zip code MD 2085	54
5. Loca	ation of Le	gal Descripti	on	
courthouse, reg	istry of deeds, etc.	Montgomery County	Courthouse li	ber 9121
street & number		51 Monroe Street	fc	lio 6
city, town		Rockville	state M	D
6. Rep	resentatio	n in Existing	Historical Surveys	
title	Montgomery Count	ty Locational Atlas	s of Historic Sites	
date	1976		federal state	countyloca
pository for s	urvey records M-NCF	PPC		
city, town	Silver Spring		state M	D

				M ₀ /5-/()
Condition excellent good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	Check one unaltered altered	Check one original site moved date of move	

Survey No.

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Creamer-McConihe property contains a small complex of Colonial Revival buildings, the bulk of which were constructed in the 1940s. The complex contains the house, with earlier log sections and attached Cape Cod style garage, stable complex, pool, poolhouse, and tenant house. The main house, located on a knoll above Piney Meetinghouse Road, is surrounded by mature trees and open fields.

<u>House</u>

7. Description

The core of the main house is a two story log structure which is five bays wide and built in two sections, which were probably constructed in the early 19th century. On the main (south) facade, a one story porch stretches across the middle three bays. This section which appears to retain its original six over six sash windows. This main core is flanked on both gable ends by two story additions extending to the east and west. The west addition consists of an ell to which is attached a three bay, Cape Cod style garage wing which projects south of the plane of the house's front (south) facade. The one and a half story garage is surmounted by two dormers flanking a center cupola.

The main roof ridge of the east wing is perpendicular to the center building core. On its east facade, a three bay wall dormer is flanked by single bay wall dormers. A former porch is enclosed with aluminum siding and a large picture window. The north, gable end of this wing contains a multi-paned projecting bay window with flared roof.

<u>Alterations</u>

The log section was apparently constructed in two sections. The original asymmetrical section was probably the east two bays, which had an entrance in the westernmost bay (now Bay 4 of the present main block), and a two bay, one story porch. The westernmost three bay section with symmetrical facade were probably added built later.

The east and west additions were constructed in the 1940s. Other alterations which probably date from this time include construction of the front porch on the log section, and replacement of a simple brick chimney with the current massive chimney (in the same location). The entire house was covered with aluminum siding c1990.

(Continued)

Continuation Sheet
M: 25-20 - Creamer-McConihe House
Section 7: DESCRIPTION
Page 7.1

<u>Outbuildings</u>

The stable complex, consisting of three gable roof structures connected by hyphens, is covered with clapboard siding and standing seam metal roofs. The entire complex is one story, except for the center gable roof section which is two stories tall. This section was originally a 19th century barn. The rest of the complex was built in the 1940s. The barn section originally had vertical board siding and a wood shingle roof. A metal ventilator was added to the center of the roof ridge.

A three by two bay, one story tenant house (11525 Piney Meetinghouse Road) dates from the mid-20th century. Facing south, the side gabled structure with standing seam metal roof has aluminum siding and stands on a raised block foundation. A one by one bay, one story addition extends to the east. A shed roof chicken coop and trash shed stand nearby.

An inground pool was installed north of the main house in 1952. The present poolhouse is a small gable roofed frame structure covered with aluminum siding with access through a panel door. The original function of this building, which appears to date from the late 19th-early 20th century, is uncertain.

A five bay animal shed stands in the pasture east of the house. The open south facade is supported by simple bracketed posts.

Outbuildings extant in 1939 which no longer stand include a small two story, gable roof barn, chicken house, garage, and unidentified small gable roof building set on stone piers.

8. Sign	ificance		Survey No.	M; 25-20
Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C — archeology-prehistoric — archeology-historic — agriculture — architecture — art — commerce — communications	heck and justify below community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement industry invention	landscape architectur law literature military music t philosophy politics/government	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
pecific dates	re-1865; ₁₉₄₃	Builder/Architect Unkr	nown	
	icable Criteria:A	B X_CD		

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

state local

Applicable Exception: _A _B _C _D _E

Level of Significance: national

Summary: The Creamer-McConihe House complex is significant primarily for its twentieth century past. It is important historically for its association with F. Moran McConihe who was a civic activist in Potomac in the early-mid 20th century. Architecturally, the complex, including house, garage, and stables characterizes the Colonial Revival remodeling typical of this era when working farms were converted to residential estates. Of secondary significance is log house section which is still readable, though it has lost some integrity.

The Creamer-McConihe House is representative of an early 20th century trend in which influential Washington residents moved from the city to country estates in the Potomac area. F. Moran McConihe was vice president of Randall H. Hagner, a Washington based real estate firm still in operation, and was active in the development of the Kalorama subdivision of Washington in the 1920s. McConihe was attracted to the Potomac area as a result of his involvement with the hobby of fox hunting. He helped persuade the Riding and Hunt Club to move from Rock Creek Park to Potomac, and, in the early 1930s, helped organize the Potomac Hunt Club. 1

F. Moran McConihe moved to this farm in 1943, four years after his marriage to Marguerite Colton Hagner, of Washington. The family raised chickens, cattle, and pigs, while McConihe served as commissioner for the Public Buildings Service Department of the General Services Administration.²

A civic activist in Potomac in the 1940s and 1950s, F. Moran McConihe was influential in establishing St. Francis Episcopal Church, Potomac National Bank, and the Potomac Chamber of Commerce. McConihe was responsible for transferring the name of Piney Meetinghouse Road from its former location (now Travilah Road) to its present location adjacent to his property (formerly New Cut Road),

(Continued)

Continuation Sheet M: 25-20 - Creamer-McConihe Farm Section 8: SIGNIFICANCE Page 8.1

after convincing residents that the meetinghouse was located near his house. 3

The Creamer-McConihe property was originally accessed by the adjacent Watts Branch, located just north of Gambrills grist and saw mill. By 1879, the farm was made more accessible with construction of New Cut Road, now known as Piney Meetinghouse Road. 4

By the time Martenet & Bond recorded the house as the residence of John Creamer in 1865, it appears that Creamer was deceased and his wife Eliza was running the farm. Tax assessment records of 1857 show Eliza Creamer owned 26 acres of "Resurvey on Newton" and "Dung Hill," located in the vicinity. The 1870 census lists Eliza as the head of a household which included 25-year old Reuben Creamer. A year earlier, Reuben and his wife Clara had assumed ownership of the 88-acre property including the subject house. In 1879, Reuben owned 150 acres in the Offutts Crossroads (now Potomac village) vicinity. At this time, Eliza was still the head of the household, with Reuben, Clara and Eliza's four grand children all living in the same house. 8

Another family member, John L. C. Creamer, assumed ownership of the property in 1886 when Reuben sold 24 7/8 acres to him for \$150.9 An 1885 photo reportedly shows John Creamer, Jr., a boy of about 15, standing in front of the log house. 10

The property remained in the Creamer family until 1941 when it was purchased by F. Moran and Marguerite H. McConihe. Mrs. McConihe retains ownership of the property after the death of her husband in 1989.11

The farm is included as part of a preliminary plan for subdivision, known as Piney Spring Farm, recently approved by the Montgomery County Planning Board. The plan, which remains valid until June 12, 1997, abandons the present access off Piney Meetinghouse Road in favor of a new north-south driveway extending from a proposed public road (an extension of Deercrest Lane) to be constructed south of the subject buildings. Under this plan, a 3.1 acre lot would contain the main house, stable, pool, and poolhouse. A separate two acre lot would contain the tenant house and associated buildings. The animal shed, located on another two acre lot, would be demolished. 12

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey NoM:25-20

See Attached Sheet

10. Geogi	raphical Data		
Quadrangle name	property 29.10 acres NOT complete UTM refere	nces	Quadrangle scale
Zone Easting	Northing	B Zone Ea	sting Northing
C		D	
Verbal boundary des	scription and justification		
List all states and c	ounties for properties overla		
state	code	county	code
11. Form	Prepared By		
name/title	Clare Lise Cavicchi		
raanization	Clare Lise Cavicchi M-NCPPC	date	June 1994
organization		date teleph	

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House

21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST DHCP/DHCD 100 COMMUNITY PLACE CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023

514-7600

Continuation Sheet M: 25-20 - Creamer-McConihe Farm

Preservation Planning Data

- a. Geographic Organization: Piedmont
- b. Chronological/Developmental Periods: Agricultural-Industrial Transition - A.D. 1815-1870 Industrial/Urban Dominance - A.D. 1870-1930 Modern Period - A.D. 1930-Present
- C. Historic Period Themes: Agriculture Architecture
- Resource Type: d. Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function: Farmhouse/Outbuildings

Use: Residential

Chain of Title

1869 Reuben C and Clara V Creamer, 88 acres for \$300 (Deed EBP 6:301)

1886 John L C Creamer, part of Reuben Creamer's land, 24 7/8 acres for \$150 (Deed JA 3:106)

1894 map: J. W. Creamer, 24 acres

1927 John T. and Bertha G. Creamer, 24 7/8 acres from John W. Creamer, widower (Deed EBP 6:301)

1941 F. Moran and Marguerite H. McConihe, 29.10 acres (Deed 859:344)

Endnotes

- 1 Unless otherwise noted, the information on F. Moran McConihe is from the obituary by Lutie Semmes, Potomac Almanac, 2/1/89.
- ² 1958 Official Register of the United States.
- 3 Ibid. The approximate meetinghouse site was on the west side of present Piney Meetinghouse Road, opposite the Creamer-McConihe House. Source: map of historic resources of Glen, Maryland produced by Potomac Glen Association, no date. (Historic Resource File #25-20, M-NCPPC)

Continuation Sheet M: 25-20 - Creamer-McConihe Farm

4 Hopkins 1879 Atlas shows "New Cut Road" as a dotted line, apparently identifying it as a newly constructed road. The road does not appear on the 1865 Martenet & Bond map. For related site, see Susan Creamer House #25/21.

⁵Montgomery County Tax Assessment Records 1857 and 1859. A description of the 536-acre Dung Hill land patent is found in Boyd's **History of Montgomery County** (1879), pp.33-34.

⁶Deed 6/301, Montgomery County Land Records.

⁷G. M. Hopkins, Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington Including the County of Montgomery, Maryland (Phila, 1879). List of patrons, p.13.

⁸Montgomery County Census Records, 1880.

 9 Deed JA 3/106, Montgomery County Land Records.

 10 Photo owned by Margo McConihe, according to conversation with her by Michael Dwyer, 3/13/1975. MD Historical Trust form completed by Michael Dwyer, 3/1/31/1975.

11 Deeds 418/308, 859/344; Montgomery County Land Records.

12 Preliminary Plan, Subdivision File 1-93043, M-NCPPC.



Creamer-McConihe Farm (Piney Spring), 1939 view. Taken from Southeast. Log house (left background), and barn (right) still standing. Source: Marguerite McConihe, private collection.



Continuation Sheet M: 25-20 - Creamer-McConihe Farm Section 9: MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES Page 9.1

Unpublished Sources

Assessment Records, 1855-1861. (Maryland Archives, Hall of Records) Census Records, 1870, 1880.

Deeds, Land Records Office. (Montgomery County Courthouse)

Dwyer, Michael F. Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form, Resource #25/20: John Creamer House, 3/13/1975.

----- Notes on telephone interview with Marguerite (Margo) McConihe, 3/13/1975.

McConihe, Marguerite. 1939 photographs of Resource #25/20: Creamer-McConihe House. McConihe Photograph collection.

Pisarra, Elie. Daughter of F. Moran and Marguerite McConihe. Interview by Clare Lise Cavicchi, 8-26-93.

Robinson & Associates. Locational Atlas Historical Survey of 400 Resources, Survey Form, Summer 1989.

Snyderman, Lois. Field notes, 2/1994.

Published Sources

Boyd, T.H.S. The History of Montgomery County, Maryland, From Its Earliest Settlement in 1650 to 1879. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1968 (originally 1879).

Hiebert, Ray Eldon and Richard K. MacMaster. A Grateful Remembrance: the Story of Montgomery County, Maryland. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery County Historical Society, 1976.

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington Including the County of Montgomery Maryland. Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, 1879. (Library of Congress; Rockville Public Library)

----- Atlas of Metropolitan Washington. 1894. (Library of Congress; Rockville Public Library)

Continuation Sheet M: 25-20 - Creamer-McConihe Farm Section 9: MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES Page 9.2

Kiplinger, Austin H. The How Not To Book of Country Life. Poolesville, 1973.

Martenet, Simon J. Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County. Baltimore: Simon J. Martenet, 1865. (Library of Congress)

McConihe, Margo (Editor). History of Potomac. Potomac Almanac, 1970.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Western Maryland. 1879.

Semmes, Lutie. "Potomac's Mike McConihe dies at 84," Potomac Almanac, 2-1-1989.

Sween, Jane Chinn. "Darnestown as it Was," in **The Montgomery County Story**, February 1982.

Woodland Hills, Cal: Windsor Publications, Inc., 1984.



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CIATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FORM

LOCATIONAL MAP

SURVEY NO.: M: 25/20

PROPERTY NAME: John Creamer House

TOWN: Potomac

COUNTY: MONTGOMERY

QUADRANGLE: Rockville, MD-VA



John Creamer House 25/20 11501 Piney Meetinghouse Rd Darnestown, MD 20874 (montitly) Lois Snyderman 11/93 South (Main)



John Creamer House 25/20 11501 Piney Meetinghouse Rd Varnestown, me 20874 (wont Cty) Lois Snydernan 11/93 South (Main)



11/93 South (Main) 9100 -4

John Creamer House

L. Snyderman

11501 Piney Meetinghouse Rose

25/20



JOHN CREAMER HOUSE

125/20
11501 PINEY MEETING HOUSE RD

L. SNYDERMAN

11/93

SOUTH (MAIN)

(EAST END)



L Snyderman North (Rear) 9/00-13

John Creamer House

11501 Piney Meetinghouse Rock

11 25/20



John Creaner House M25/20 11501 Piney Meetinghouse Road L Snyderman 11/93 North (Rear) (main Block)



John Creamer House 1125/20 11501 Piney Meetinghouse & Darnestown, med 20874 (mont cty) L Snyderman East (RIGHT) SOUTH (LEFT)



125/20 11501 Piney Meetinghouse Road L Snyderman 11/93 North (Rear) (East End) + East (left)

John Creamer House



L. Snyderman 11/93 West 9100-7

11501 Piney Meetinghouse Rock

John Creamer House

125/20



11501 PINEY MEETING HOUSE RD

L. SNY DERMAN

11/93

SOUTH (MAIN) (ATTACHED GARAGE - WEST END)

JOHN CREAMER HOUSE



11501 Piney Meetinghouse Road L. Snyderman 11/93 North 9100-5

John Creamer House (outbuildings - Stables)

1 25/20



John Creamer House 1 25/20 11501 Piney Meetinghouse Road L Snyderna 11/93 Garden/Pool thouse West



11501 Piney Meetinghouse Road L Snyderman 11/93 South 9100-10

Sohn Creamer House (Terrant House)

25/20



John Creawer House Outbuildings - Chicken shed (Trush shed) (Behind 25/20 Tenant House) 11501 Piney Meetinghouse Road L Snydermen 11/93 South



Sohn Creamer House (Cutbuilding - Behand Terrent House) 25/20 11501 Piney Meetinghouse Road L Snydernan 11/93 South 9100-12



11501 Piney Meetinghouse Road L Snyderman In field east of house South 9100-16

John Greaner House (Ostbuilding-shed)

1 25/20



View from house (south) 9100-6

11501 Piney Meeting house Road L. Snyderman 11/93

John Creamer Horse

1 25/20



11501 Piney Meetinghouse Rd L. Snyderman 11/93 View from entrance to driveway to house West + South (right) 9100-8

John Creamer House

1 25/20

Survey No.M:25-20

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.1606785604

DOE __yes __no

1. Nan	le (indicate p	referred name)		
historic John	Creamer			
and/or common				
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	. 11501 Piney M	eetinghouse Rd.	A STATE OF THE STA	not for publication
city, town	Potomac	vicinity of	congressional district	4th
state	Maryland	county	Montgomery	
3. Clas	sification			
Category district building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered not_applicable	Status occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commerciai educationai entertainment government industrial military	museum park X private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Prope	erty (give names a	nd mailing addresse	es of <u>all</u> owners)
name F. I	Moran McConike			
street & number	11501 Piney I	Meetinghouse Rd.	telephone n	0.:
city, town	Potomac	state	and zip code Mary	land, 20854
5. Loca	ation of Leg	al Description		
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc.	ntgomery County C	ourt House	859 liber
street & number				folio 344
city, town	Roc	ckville	state I	Maryland
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city, town	Rockvi	111è	state	Maryland

CONDITION

FXCELLENT GOOD

__DETERIORATED

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CHECK ONE
ORIGINAL SITE
MOVED DATE

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

House not seen at time of survey. However, the present owners bought a remodeled farmhouse here over 30 years ago. This house has at its core a simple, squared log cabin. The owners have a photo, dated 1885, that shows the log house as it was originally.

Periód prehistoric 1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 X 1800-1899 1900-	archeology-prehistor archeology-historic agriculture architecture art	Check and justify below ric community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlemen industry invention		religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
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	licable Criteria: and/or licable Exception: _	A B C D A B C D	EFG	
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9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. M:25-20

Mont. Co. Land Records Conversation with Mrs. McConihe

10. Geograph	ical Data	and the transfer of the control of t	
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			इंटे एडंब अंध छ जव
return to:	Maryland Historic Shaw House		
	21 State Circle Annapolis, Maryla	nd 21401	

(301) 269-2438

1606785604

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM

for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

	AND/OR HISTORIC:	- 	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
	1	Creamer Ho	ouse		*.	
2.	LOCATION					
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		Piney Mee	tinghouse	Road		
	CITY OR TOWN:					
	Potom	ac				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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4.	OWNER OF PROPERTY	ran McConi				
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4.	OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: F. MO		ke	Road		
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Like most older houses in the area, this one has been remodeled. However, the original log house is incorporated within the present structure. Mr . McConike thinks the log house was built ca. 1870 for John Creamer. They have a photo, dated 1885, showing the house, with John Creamer, Jr. (then a boy of about 15), standing in front of it. She says that John Creamer, Sr. owned a large farm on both sides of Piney Meetinghouse Rd. His main house was across from the McConikes, and burned years The map of 1894 shows J.C.L. Creamer living there, on a 96 acre farm. J.W. Creamer lived on a 24 acre place, where the McConickes are now. Before that time, the 1878 map shows John Creamer on this side of the "New Cut Road" (Piney Meetinghouse.) A dwelling occupied by John Creamer here also appears on the 1865 map.

Just north of here is the Susan Creamer House, that also appears on all these maps. (See form #25-21.)

9.	MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAPHICAL RE	FERENCES "					
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	1)	Conversation	with Mrs. F.	ľ	Moran (Margo) McC	Conike (3/	13/75)
l	1) Conversation with Mrs. F. Moran (Margo) McConike (3/13/75) 2) HISTORY OF POTOMAC, by the Potomac Almanac (1970).							
.	3)	Martenet & E	Bond Map (1865)	& Hopkins' N	Maps	of 1878 &	1894.
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